



Ruckleigh School

Scholarship Policy

Key Personnel

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Introductory Remarks

Ruckleigh School (the school hereafter) is proud of its academic reputation, sending as it does, the overwhelming majority of pupils onto highly selective senior schools. The school believes in celebrating academic success alongside success in more public areas (i.e. Music, Art, Drama, Sports). The school recognizes that academic success and potential are less easily celebrated than success in performative sports or arts. In order to redress this, the school offers academic scholarships based on examination.

Aims

- i. To celebrate academic success and further foster the school's commitment to achieving academic excellence.
- ii. To recognise outstanding talent within the school.

Definitions

At Ruckleigh School:

- i. a scholar is a pupil receiving a financial award as a percentage reduction of school fees. Dependent on their year of entry to the school, this will be for their lower and middle school, or upper years. Academic scholarships may be retained throughout a pupil's career if they continue to fulfil the conditions for academic scholarships, inclusive of success in each key stage round of examinations.
- ii. an exhibition holder is a pupil who receives a one-off lump sum reduction from their first term's school fees in a given academic year.

Provision for Academic Scholars & Exhibition Holders

Scholarships are set by the school and may be of up to 25% of total fees. Exhibitions are honorific and are awarded for academic excellence that does not quite reach the level required for a scholarship.

What sort of Person would be considered for an academic scholarship?

The criterion for selection for an Academic Scholarship is 'demonstrating the potential to achieve significantly beyond expectations for the Ruckleigh age cohort. Successful candidates will show flexibility of thought, an ability to explain their ideas in a clear and precise manner and a genuine desire to learn more about the world (intellectual curiosity).

How are candidates selected?

Candidates sit a Mathematics Task, and an English Task. There is also an interview with a member of the school's senior leadership team which will take the form of a discussion about the candidates' academic interests and may cover their responses to tasks undertaken earlier in the day.

Expectations of our Scholars and Exhibitioners

Academic Scholars and Exhibitioners are expected to make a strong and ongoing contribution to the academic life of the school. It is anticipated that Academic Scholars will always work in the top 10% of pupils where effort is concerned and the top 5% in terms of attainment. It is anticipated that Exhibitioners will always work in the top 15% for Effort and 10% for academic achievement. Older Scholars and Exhibitioners are expected to behave as role models and active leaders to younger pupils.

FAQ's

Q. Are there a fixed number of scholarships?

A. No, Scholarships will be issued on the basis of merit. A maximum reduction of 25% will be offered, the amount of a scholarship offered may vary and the **reduction is confidential**. Which is standard across the sector.

Q. Can scholarships increase in value?

A. Yes. If examinations are retaken at the next 'break point' and the candidate proves more successful against the pool.

Q. Can scholarships be removed?

A. Yes, if the candidate fails to meet the stated academic criteria and or his/her behaviour breaches school expectations. Or does not reach scholarship standard upon sitting next key stage examination.

Q. Will there be an equal spread of scholarships across the school?

A. Scholarships are based on merit alone and this means an even spread of awards is unlikely.

Q. If my child doesn't get a scholarship, will I be able to see his/her paper?

- A. Given the anticipated uptake it will not be possible to provide individual feedback and neither papers nor marks will not be retained after the date upon which they are marked.

Q. Is the scholarship programme an academic identifier re. 11+/entrance examination?

- B. While we anticipate crossover, the programme is not designed to mirror either process and so should not be seen as a like for like indicator. We expect the majority of pupils to receive offers for their first-choice schools and scholarships are by nature awarded to a minority of pupils